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STALYBRIDGE.



ANNUAL
REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH
AND
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
1947

BOROUGH OF



STALYBRIDGE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH

AND

Chief Sanitary Inspector

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BOROUGH OF STALYBRIDGE.

COMMITTEES

(December, 1947)

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman	- - - -	Councillor A. Allen
Deputy Chairman	- -	Councillor Grundy
The Mayor (Ex-officio)	-	Councillor T. Kenworthy
Alderman Harris		Councillor Gauld
„ Porter		„ Gillott
„ Slack		„ Harrop
„ Wilson		„ Stanley
Councillor Barker		„ Storrs
„ Berry		„ Walton
		„ White

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE

Chairman	- - -	Councillor A. Sidebottom
Deputy Chairman	-	Councillor Gillott
The Mayor (ex-officio)	-	Councillor T. Kenworthy
Alderman Porter		Councillor Slack
„ Slack		„ Storrs
Councillor Gauld		„ Walton
„ Grundy		„ White
*Mrs. L. Harris		*Mrs. M. F. McCarthy
*Mrs. J. Sykes		*Mrs. F. N. Tonge

*Mrs. I. Walker.

*Co-opted Member.



TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH AND MATERNITY AND
CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEES.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit for your consideration the Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Department for the year 1947. This report is largely statistical in as much as I, having no personal knowledge of events in Stalybridge during the year, am in no position to provide much in the nature of commentary.

In October, 1947, Dr. S. K. Appleton resigned after 10 months service, on taking up an appointment as Divisional Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer to the West Riding of Yorkshire County Council Division No. 10.

In the circumstances you will appreciate that the production of this report is largely the work of the staff of the Public Health Department.

I know Dr. Appleton would wish me to record an appreciation of the co-operation of the Chairman and Members of the Committees, the Staffs of the Departments, the consultants and Voluntary Helpers throughout 1947.

Yours obediently,

R. CARGILL,

Acting Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Stalybridge.

June, 1948.

STAFF.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

S. KENNAUGH APPLETON, M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M.

(Resigned, October, 1947).

DENTAL SURGEON.

GERALD H. FENTON, L.D.S.

SANITARY INSPECTORS.

CHIEF : J. NORRIS, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

ADDITIONAL : J. F. H. WALTON, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

(April, 1947).

HEALTH VISITORS.

Miss S. A. WATSON, S.R.N., C.M.B., H.V.C.

Mrs. H. HARRISON, S.R.N., C.M.B., H.V.C.

CLERICAL STAFF.

Health :

A. CLOUGH

Miss J. NORTON

Mrs. G. PATTEN (Resigned, May, 1947)

Miss D. OLLERENSHAW (Sept. 1947)

M. & C. W.

Miss E. M. RHODES

Miss D. CONSTERDINE, (February, 1947)

Dental :

Mrs. E. WADDINGTON (Resigned October, 1947)

Mrs. K. BARDSLEY, (November, 1947)

W. E. LAWSON, M.B., Ch.B., Visiting Ophthalmic Surgeon.

W. SAYLE CREER, F.R.C.S., Visiting Orthopædic Surgeon.

W. E. C. THOMAS, M.B., ChB., M.R.C.O.G., Medical Officer of
Ante-natal Department.

Miss E. M. HODSON, M.C.S.P., Physio-therapist.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	3,190
Population Census, 1931	24,831
Population, 1947 (Mid-year estimates) ...	21,900
Rateable Value, 1st April, 1947	£132,448
Estimated amount of a Penny Rate	£512

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES.

The following figures may be compared with those for the country as a whole by reference to Table I.

The live-birth rate of 22.55 shows an increase as compared with the rate for 1946 of 20.18, while the crude death rate of 15.11 shows a slight decrease against last year's figure of 15.42.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There were 26 deaths of infants under one year of age, giving an infantile mortality rate of 52.63 as against 59.49 in 1946.

TABLE I.

Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the Year 1947 (Provisional figures).
(The mortality rates for England and Wales refer to the whole population but for London and the towns to civilians only.)

	Rate per 1000 Total Population.		Annual Death-rate per 1000 Population.								Rate per 1000 Live Births.					
	Live Births.	Still-births.	All causes	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under two years).	Total Deaths under one year.				
England and Wales.....	20.5	0.50	12.0	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.09	5.8	41				
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	23.3	0.62	13.0	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.03	0.01	0.09	8.0	47				
148 Smaller Towns(1931 Resident Populations, 25,000—50,000)	22.2	0.54	11.9	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.03	0.01	0.09	3.7	36				
London	22.7	0.49	12.8	0.00	—	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.08	4.8	37				
Stalybridge	22.55	0.50	15.11	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.00	6.07	52.63				
Maternal mortality rate for England and Wales per 1000 Total Births													Puerperal Sepsis.	Others.	Total.	
" " Stalybridge													..	0.16	0.85	1.01
" " " "													..	—	—	—

TABLE II.

REGISTRAR GENERAL'S RETURN

FOR THE YEAR 1947.

CAUSES OF DEATH

No.	GROUP CAUSE OF DEATH.	M	F.	Total
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers .....	..	..	..
2.	Cerebro-spinal Fever .....	..	..	..
3.	Scarlet Fever .....	..	..	..
4.	Whooping Cough .....	..	..	..
5.	Diphtheria .....	..	1	1
6.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	3	2	5
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis	2	2	4
8.	Syphilitic disease .....	..	..	..
9.	Influenza .....	..	..	..
10.	Measles .....	..	..	..
11.	Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis .....	..	..	..
12.	Acute infectious encephalitis .....	..	2	2
13m	Cancer buccal cavity & oesophagus (Males only)	1	..	1
13 f	Cancer of uterus .....	..	3	3
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	5	2	7
15.	Cancer of breast.....	..	9	9
16.	Cancer of other sites	11	14	25
17.	Diabetes	1	3	4
18.	Intra-cranial vascular lesions	20	21	41
19.	Heart disease	52	51	103
20.	Other diseases of circulatory system	6	5	11
21.	Bronchitis	17	10	27
22.	Pneumonia	11	5	16
23.	Other respiratory diseases	5	4	9
24.	Ulceration of stomach or duodenum	1	..	1
25.	Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	2	1	3
26.	Appendicitis .....	..	1	1
27.	Other digestive diseases	5	..	5
28.	Nephritis	4	4	8
29.	Puerperal and post abortive sepsis.....	..	..	..
30.	Other maternal causes .....	..	..	..
31.	Premature birth	1	9	10
32.	Congenital malformations, etc.....	3	4	7
33.	Suicide	1	..	1
34.	Road traffic accidents .....	..	..	..
35.	Other violent causes	5	3	8
36.	All other causes	9	10	19
	ALL CAUSES.	165	166	331

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH
SERVICES IN THE AREA.

BACTERIOLOGY.

SWABS.

25 swabs were examined for B. Diphtheriæ and of these, 1 was found positive.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

Supervision continues to be exercised.

The milk samples taken during the year, with the results, were as follows :—

	Samples taken.	Number Satisfactory.
Methylene Blue Test	29	27
B. Tuberculosis	25	24
B. Coli	29	19

Appropriate action was taken where unsatisfactory results were returned.

PASTEURIZED MILK.

12 Phosphatase tests all provided satisfactory results.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

The following list of samples, details of which were supplied by the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures of the Cheshire County Council, were obtained in the Borough of Stalybridge during the year ended 31st December, 1947 :—

Nature of Sample	Number obtained	Adulterated or not up to the recognised standard of quality
Bacon	1	—
Baking Powder	1	—
Butter	1	—
Cake Mixture	1	—
Camphorated Oil... ..	1	—
Cheese	1	—
Cooking Fat	1	—
Iodine, Tincture of	1	—
Margarine	1	—
Meat Paste	1	—

Nature of Sample	Number obtained	Adulterated or not up to the recognised standard of quality
Milks	45	5
Mustard	2	—
Pepper (White)	3	3
Sausage... ..	8	4
Sugar	1	—
Vinegar	5	—
Zinc Ointment	1	—
	—→	—→
	75	12
	—→	—→

PARTICULARS OF SAMPLES REPORTED AS
ADULTERATED OR NOT UP TO STANDARD :—

1. **Sausage.** Contained undeclared sulphur dioxide preservative to the extent of 150 parts per million expressed as sulphur dioxide. This was an informal sample. See Formal sample No. 4.
2. **Sausage.** Contained undeclared sulphur dioxide preservative to the extent of 150 parts per million expressed as sulphur dioxide. This was an informal sample. See Formal sample No. 3.
3. **Sausage.** Contained undeclared sulphur dioxide preservative to the extent of 165 parts per million expressed as sulphur dioxide. This was a Formal sample obtained from seller of No. 2 above. Retailer was prosecuted and fined £2 and 10/6 costs.
4. **Sausage.** Contained undeclared sulphur dioxide preservative to the extent of 180 parts per million expressed as sulphur dioxide. This was a Formal sample obtained from seller of No. 1 above. Retailer was prosecuted and fined £1 and 10/6d. costs.
5. **Pepper (White).** Pepper adulterated with not less than 80% of wheat farina. This was an informal sample. See corresponding formal sample No. 6.
6. **Pepper (White).** Pepper adulterated with not less than 80% of wheat farina. Wholesaler prosecuted but case was dismissed on the grounds that the pepper was sold as a seasoning and not as "pepper".
7. **Pepper.** Pepper adulterated with not less than 80% of wheat farina. An informal sample purchased in course of the investigations relating to No. 6.
8. **Milk.** Contained 4% of extraneous water. Seller cautioned.

9. Milk.	„	2.2%	„	„	Sample taken from each of six churns on a retailer's float.
10. Milk.	„	6.3%	„	„	
11. Milk	„	3%	„	„	
12. Milk.	„	6.3%	„	„	Sample from a seventh churn was genuine. Retailer, alleging that milk was as received from a Wholesale Dairy, was given benefit of doubt owing to impossibility of obtaining a corresponding sample of milk from the same source.

WATER SUPPLIES.

13 samples of water were taken during the year, 3 chemical and bacteriological samples were taken of the Town's water supply, all being satisfactory.

In addition to the main water supply of the Borough there is in the Millbrook district, a small supply serving 185 houses, derived from a small reservoir fed from a series of springs on the adjacent hillside. This water is chlorinated and during the year 5 chemical and bacteriological samples were taken, the results in each case being satisfactory.

With regard to plumbo-solvency, 40 tap samples were taken during the year all with negative results. Calcium Carbonate is added before filtration.

The population supplied is approximately 24,670. In all cases water is supplied direct to the houses ; there are no stand pipes.

57 farms and cottages on the higher ground of the outlying parts of the Borough are supplied by spring water.

4 Bacteriological and 1 chemical sample were taken of a supply serving several farms and cottages. The first sample showed evidence of pollution ; the Estate was notified and repairs carried out to the supply pipe and storage tank. Subsequent samples have shown considerable improvement in the bacteriological condition of the water.

During the year no action was taken under the Public Health Act, in respect of any form of contamination.

INSULIN.

(Section 177, Public Health Act, 1936)

Three persons received a free supply during the year, the cost being £10 7s od.

CIVIL AMBULANCE SERVICE.

This Service has now been in operation for a complete year, after re-constitution in 1946, rendering excellent service to the community free of charge.

Calls from the Urban District of Tintwistle are dealt with under agreement.

During the year 2261 calls have been received, 59 of these being accident cases, the ambulances travelling a distance of 12,756 miles.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

HOME HELPS.

The scheme prepared and approved under Section 204 of the Public Health Act, 1936, continued, as described in previous reports, in a state of suspended animation.

ADOPTION.

Adoption of Children (Section 7 of the Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939)

- | | | |
|--|--------|---|
| (a) Number of persons who gave notice under Section 7 (3) during the year | ... .. | 3 |
| (b) Total number of children in respect of whom notice was given under Section 7 (3) during the year | ... .. | 3 |
| (c) Number of children notified under Section 7 (3): | | |
| (i) Under supervision at the end of the year | ... | 3 |

ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN.

The position remains substantially unaltered.

PREMATURE CHILDREN.

Experience has not suggested any alteration in our present arrangements.

MIDWIVES ACT, 1936.

The number of cases attended by midwives during the year :

- | | | |
|-------------------------|--------|-----|
| (1) As Midwives | ... .. | 193 |
| (2) As Maternity Nurses | ... .. | 20 |

The number of cases during the year in which medical aid was summoned under Section 14 (1) of the Midwives Act, 1918, was 81.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS
(PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936).

478 notifications of births were received during the year relating to 467 livebirths and 11 stillbirths. These figures compare with 431 livebirths and 8 stillbirths notified during the previous year.
 228 cases were confined in institutions.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

During the year 73 cases were seen and 280 attendances in all were made.

POST-NATAL CLINIC.

During the year 44 cases were seen and 48 attendances made.

INFANT CONSULTATION CENTRE.

Number of Sessions held	102
Total number of Attendances of Infants...	6830
Average Attendance per Session	67
Total number of children who attended the Centre for the first time during the year :—	
(a) Under 1 year of age	339
(b) Between 1 and 5 years	49
Total number of children who were attending the Centre at the close of the year :—	
(a) Under 1 year of age	279
(b) Between 1 and 5 years	415

ATTENDANCES AT CENTRE.

	0—1 year	1—2 years	2—3 years	3—4 years	4—5 years
1st Visits	339	12	13	17	7
Subsequent Visits... ..	5217	638	214	217	57

SALE OF FOODS.

- The principal sales made at the Clinics were :—
 8,550 packets of dried milk.
 111¼ lbs of Virol.
 302 bottles of Cod Liver Oil Emulsion.
 1641 packets of other foods.
 1445 bottles of strained Vegetables.

The total receipts were £1,123 : 14 : 11d.

Under the Ministry of Food Scheme, 539 bottles of orange juice, 238 bottles of Cod Liver Oil and 548 packets of National Dried Milk were issued at the Clinic during the year.

VOLUNTARY WORKERS.

Grateful acknowledgment is made of the assistance given at the Clinics throughout the year by the undermentioned ladies :—

Mrs. Tonge	Mrs. Slack
Mrs. McCarthy	Mrs. Woolley
Mrs. I. Walker	Mrs. Whittaker
Mrs. March	Mrs. Jessop
Mrs. Booth	Miss Hill
Mrs. Hebdige	Mrs. Waugh

HEALTH VISITOR'S WORK.

The following is a tabular summary of the visits made by the Health Visitors during the year :—

Number of primary visits to children 0—1 year (following notification of birth)	405
Number of primary visits to transfers of all ages	58
Number of other visits to children 0—1 years	1243
„ of other visits to children 1—2 years	809
„ of other visits to children 2—3 years	462
„ of other visits to children 3—4 years	446
„ of other visits to children 4—5 years	348
„ of visits re infant deaths	18
„ of visits re stillbirths	9
„ of visits re ante-natal cases	9
„ of visits re post-natal cases	2
„ of visits re infectious disease	30
Special visits	3
	<hr/> 3842 <hr/>

ORTHOPÆDIC CLINIC

Number of sessions at which Orthopædic Surgeon was present	11
Number of children examined by Orthopædic Surgeon	222
Number of sessions held	92
Number of attendances made	396

Number of cases on the Register.

Cases from previous years	89
New cases in 1947	38
Remaining on Register	73

Removed from the Register in 1947.

Discharged	24
Left district	3
Non-attenders	—
Transferred to School Register	27

<u>Types of new cases dealt with :—</u>	Male	Female
Postural deformities	2	—
Genu valgum... ..	9	8
Genu varus	3	1
Pronated feet	3	3
Toe deformities	2	1
Other conditions... ..	4	2
	<hr/> 23	<hr/> 15

ULTRA-VIOLET RADIATION.

TREATMENT OF PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN.

	COMPLETED		CONTINUING		INCOMPLETE	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Debility	9	22	5	5	2	3
Cervical Adenitis	10	—	1	—	—	1
Post Inf. Disease	5	8	2	2	2	—
Rickets	3	2	1	1	—	—
Genu Valgum	2	—	2	1	—	1
Genu Varus	3	—	—	—	—	—
Anorexia	2	15	2	3	1	—
Bronchitis	6	4	1	—	3	—
Other conditions	6	4	—	1	1	2
	<hr/> 46	<hr/> 55	<hr/> 14	<hr/> 13	<hr/> 9	<hr/> 7

No. of Children Treated... 144.

Attendances ... 1347.

The work done during the year increased slightly as compared with the previous year.

Mr. W. Sayle Creer the Orthopædic Surgeon reports as follows:—

The Orthopædic clinic has continued throughout the year and there is nothing remarkable to record. As in previous years the children have proved to be healthy and in the vast majority of cases have been suffering from minor postural defects, particularly of the lower limbs, which have been amenable to simple measures, such as the provision of splints or a surgical type of shoe, with or without a certain amount of physiotherapy. A few cases have had to be referred to the District Infirmary, Ashton-under-Lyne for minor operations.

Owing to pressure of work it has not been possible for me to attend in the last few months, but Mr. J. L. Mangan, F.R.C.S.I., who is associated with me in my hospital work, has proved a very efficient substitute.

The staff, headed by Miss Hodson, has shown unfailing courtesy and co-operation, and it is a pleasure to record that in my opinion the clinic ranks very highly as regards its efficiency.

OPHTHALMIC CLINIC.

13 pre-school children attended and spectacles were issued to 4 cases. In all, 25 attendances were made.

As previously, the majority of cases referred, 10 suffered from strabismus (squint).

No. of cases on Register at beginning of	
1947	12
No. of new cases during year	6
	<hr/>
	18
	<hr/>
No. of cases removed from Register during	
year	8
	<hr/>
No. of cases remaining at end of 1947 ...	10
	<hr/>

DENTAL REPORT.

The Dental Surgeon, Mr. Gerald H. Fenton, reports :—

The Ante Natal figures for this year show a marked decrease over 1946 and the Pre-School figures remain about the same.

I still feel that the majority of parents and expectant mothers are ignorant of the services available and the importance of complete Dental Health. While this condition persists, expansion and improvement of the services is impossible.

ANTE-NATAL.

6 new patients were referred from the ante-natal clinic for dental treatment.

General Anæsthetic Service.

3 general anæsthetic—nitrous oxide and oxygen—were administered.

Provision of Dentures.

4 patients had full upper and lower dentures inserted.

2 patients had partial dentures inserted.

Details of Treatment.

No. of patients inspected	6
No. of patients requiring treatment	6
No. of patients treated	11
No. of attendances for treatment	40
No. of teeth extracted	43
No. of fillings	3
No. of other operations	8
No. of general anæsthetics administered ...	3

PRE-SCHOOL.

22 children under 5 years of age were inspected and all were found to require treatment.

Details of Treatment.

No. of children inspected	22
No. of children requiring treatment	21
No. of children treated	21
No. of attendances for treatment	35
No. of temporary teeth extracted	23
No. of other operations	10
No. of general anæsthetics administered ...	9
No. of fillings in Temporary Teeth	8

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

A note of the incidence of the main infectious diseases during the current and previous years is given below :—

	1947	1946	1945	1944
Diphtheria	4	4	5	17
Scarlet Fever	8	10	12	38
Tuberculosis (all forms)...	28	20	24	28
Measles	464	9	171	104
Whooping Cough	36	167	60	80
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	—	1	1	1
Miscellaneous	17	19	16	27
	<hr/> 557 <hr/>	<hr/> 230 <hr/>	<hr/> 289 <hr/>	<hr/> 295 <hr/>

Measles of a mild or moderate type reached almost epidemic proportions : as these epidemics occur every other year and in view of the almost complete absence of measles in 1946 this was to be expected.

Reference to the Diphtheria Immunisation statistics in this Report shows the position to be still far from satisfactory. With almost half the child population unprotected the comparative freedom from Diphtheria in 1947 must be attributed to the low incidence of the disease throughout the country.

Mothers attending the Welfare Centre however are coming to regard immunisation of children at their first birthday as routine practice, but otherwise there is widespread apathy which I am afraid will only be dispelled by an epidemic of Diphtheria.

SPECIFIC INFECTIONS.

DIPHTHERIA.

5 notifications were received during the year and of these 4 were confirmed. One case, a girl of 12 years who had not been previously immunised, died in hospital.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

During the year 35 school, and 188 pre-school, children were completely immunised as compared with 15 school, and 172 pre-school children in 1946. 692 children received further injections after being completely immunised some years previously.

Number of children who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1947 :—

AGE	under 1 1947	1 1946	2 1945	3 1944	4 1943	5—9 1938- 1942	10—14 1933- 1937	Total under 15
Number Immunised	—	118	135	164	161	1105	860	2543
Percentage ..	31.6					78.9		58.8

SCARLET FEVER.

8 cases were notified and of these 4 were removed to hospital.

PNEUMONIA.

11 notifications were received while 16 deaths were certified as being due to this cause. The notification of this disease under ordinary circumstances seems to serve no useful purpose.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Some 28 cases were notified during the year as compared with 20 in the previous year. The cases numbered 20 pulmonary and 8 non-pulmonary.

The deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the year totalled 5 as against 11 in the previous year while Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis accounted for 4 as against 3 in 1946.

TUBERCULOSIS — SPUTUM EXAMINATIONS.

93 specimens were examined ; 17 were positive and 76 negative.

CANCER.

45 deaths during the year were attributed to cancer, the same as in 1946.

HOUSING.

Unfortunately it has not been possible to make any progress in slum clearance during the year. 2 houses were represented as unfit for human habitation but it will, no doubt, be a very considerable time before any real progress can be made in slum clearance.

In 1943 a survey of the working class property was made and the Department are in a position to schedule clearance areas immediately houses are available for re-housing the displaced tenants.

The deterioration of the poorer types of working class property causes real concern and considerable difficulty is experienced in keeping the houses habitable.

Whilst it has not been possible to carry out an up to date overcrowding survey, experience shows that there are quite a number of overcrowded families in the town. In the cases investigated, the overcrowding was the result of increased families or members of the family marrying, living with the parents and starting a family of their own.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1947.



To the Chairman and Members of
the Public Health Committee.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my first complete Annual Report on the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspector's section of the Public Health Department.

In spite of present-day difficulties—a real effort has been made to improve conditions in the Borough and comparative figures shown in the various sections of this report are of interest. The great amount of work carried out by the department has only been made possible by the full co-operation of Mr. J. F. H. Walton, the Additional Sanitary Inspector and the whole of the staff of the Public Health and Cleansing Departments.

I would also like to place on record my sincere appreciation of the assistance and co-operation of the Chairman of the Public Health Committee, Councillor A. Allen, the former Chairman, Alderman J. Porter, and the whole of the members of the Public Health Committee.

Your obedient servant,

J. NORRIS,

June, 1948.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACT DEFECTS.

Two prosecutions were taken during the year and abatement orders were granted by the Magistrates in each case.

11 formal and 518 informal notices dealing with 2027 defects were served.

Revisits covering the 12 months ended 31st December, 1947, have been completed and the figures show that 85.39% of the defects have been remedied.

Particular mention should be made of the number of defective ashbins renewed during the year, 37 formal and 226 informal notices requiring the provision of 486 ashbins were served. Every defective bin was renewed. 19 ashbins were supplied in default of formal notice. 854 ashbins were sold by the Department in 1947 as against 442 in 1946.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

Two houses have been represented as unfit for human habitation. The condition of the poorer types of working class property continues to deteriorate and considerable difficulty is experienced in keeping this type of property habitable.

VISITS.

	1946.	1947.
Inspection of Houses	977	1670
„ Drains, closets, etc.	192	402
„ Ashbins, etc,	1	54
„ Offensive Accumulations... ..	6	30
„ Farms, Dairies, Milkshops	28	83
„ Factories	25	68
„ Offensive Trades	—	8
„ Food Premises	104	337
Visits to Slaughterhouse	111	94
„ Tip	35	62
„ regarding C.D.A.	1	24
„ Infectious Disease cases	74	69
„ Houses-let-in-Lodgings and Common Lodging Houses	4	9
„ Shops	—	242
Smoke Observations	6	86
Milk Samples	91	87
Water Samples	8	13

Interviews	428	644
Miscellaneous Visits	133	304
	<hr/> 2224	<hr/> 4286

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS INSPECTION.

Comparative figures of meat inspected by your Meat Inspectors at the Dukinfield Slaughterhouse of the Ministry of Food are as follows:—

ANIMALS INSPECTED.

Bulls	8	19
Cows	667	445
Heifers and Bullocks	581	544
Calves	536	435
Sheep	4610	2816
Pigs	27	19

The approximate weight of meat and offals condemned is as follows :—

	1946.	1947
Tubercular	34254 lbs.	26860 lbs.
Non-Tubercular	5208 lbs.	5930 lbs.
	<hr/> 39462 lbs.	<hr/> 32790 lbs.

Details of meat and offals condemned are as follows :

	1946.	1947.
Whole carcase	29	29
Part carcase	60	38
Heads and Tongues	172	115
Lungs... ..	460	320
Diaphragms	100	85
Hearts	38	36
Livers	700	532
Stomachs	63	38
Mesenteries and Intestines	118	50
Spleens	73	67
Kidneys	13	13

Details of other food condemned is as follows :—

232 tins Meat	9 tins M. and V.
95 „ Stew	58 „ Fruit
112 „ Fish	1 „ Figs
410 „ Vegetables	1 „ Syrup

29 cartons Choc. Spread	53 lbs. Bacon
472 tins Milk	9 „ Butter
118 „ Soup	2 „ Cheese
5 „ Bacon	112 „ Raw Sugar
4 „ Pudding	34 „ Sweets
23 „ Marmalade	536 „ Fish
10 „ Jam	3 „ Mushrooms
1 „ Oysters	25 „ Prunes
11 „ Sausage Meat	14280 „ Desert Pears

FOOD PREMISES.

Visits to food premises have increased from 104 in 1946 to 337 in 1947. Registrations under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, are almost complete. Alterations to several food premises have been discussed, some have been carried out and others are at present being considered.

ICE CREAM.

On May 1st, 1947, when the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations came into force there were 3 firms manufacturing ice cream in Stalybridge. 2 of the 3 manufacturers have ceased manufacture rather than adapt their premises and equipment to comply with the Regulations. The remaining manufacturer has spent a very considerable amount of money on providing new equipment and when the layout is complete he will comply fully with the regulations. Since 1st May, 1947, one Cafe proprietor has commenced manufacture on a small scale and he has placed an order for up to date equipment and for alterations to his premises.

15 Methylene Blue samples have been taken and graded as follows:

		Manufactured	
		In Borough	Outside Borough
Grade 1	... ..	2	1
„ 2	... ..	3	4
„ 3	... ..	2	2
„ 4	... ..	1	—

The unsatisfactory samples in Grades 3 and 4 within the Borough were followed up and, following advice given to the manufacturer, subsequent samples showed considerable improvement. Copies of sample results were forwarded to local authorities in whose area the outside manufacturers were producing.

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.

During the year a considerable amount of time has been spent on smoke abatement. 86 observations were taken against 6 in 1946. 16 of the observations exceeded the time limit for dense smoke. One firm were the principal offenders, 11 of the 16 excess observations being recorded against their chimney. Numerous visits to the Mill and interviews with the Management have only resulted in temporary improvement. An approach to the Ministry of Fuel and Power in June brought no satisfaction and at the end of the year the question of formal action was being considered.

DISINFECTION.

8 houses were fumigated. 17 beds, 31 blankets, 41 pillows and bolsters and 35 other articles were disinfected.

SHOPS ACTS.

242 visits to shops have been made chiefly with a view to keeping the Register up to date.

WASTE WATER CLOSET CONVERSIONS.

In response to the offer of a grant of half cost of or £8 whichever is the lower, 6 applications have been made involving the conversion of 10 waste water closets. Although the number of applications received so far is small it is at least a start towards conversion of our 1,600 waste water closets. It is hoped that considerable progress will be made in the next 12 months.

RODENT CONTROL.

This Authority still carry out Rodent Control as agents for the Cheshire County Council. Our Rodent Operative made 1,282 visits to properties during the year. 23 Contracts amounting to £121 per annum were signed or renewed.

The work of the Rodent Operative has been carried out very successfully.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There is one registered common lodging house and two houses-let-in-lodgings. Occasional visits are paid to these premises and certain defects have been found and remedied during the year.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Inadequate and defective sewers in Caroline Street and Tatton Street have been replaced by pipes laid so as to be self cleansing. Further sewerage extensions have been made at the new Corporation Housing sites.

40 drains, 59 waste water closets and 13 fresh water closets have been opened by the Department employees.

DISINFESTATION.

Insecticide with D.D.T. is used for disinfestation and the number of premises treated by this method during the twelve months was 20.

Hydrogen cyanide is used in the case of furniture removals, one van load being dealt with during 1947.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

114 visits to bakehouses and other factories have been made during the year as against 57 in 1946. 28 informal notices have been served and 13 have been complied with. It is hoped that the outstanding notices will be complied with in the near future.

INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS.

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	No. on Re- gister	Number of		Occupiers Prosecuted
		Inspec- tions	Written Notices	
Factories without Mechanical Power	49	20	—	—
Factories with Mechanical Power ..	144	94	12	—
Other Premises under the Act (in- cluding works of building and en- gineering construction but not including outworkers' premises ..	—	—	—	—
	193	114	12	—

2.—Defects found.

Particulars	Number of Defects			Number of defects in respect of which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ..	16	16	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilating (S.4) ..	—	—	—	—
Ineffective draining of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences —				
Insufficient	1	1	—	—
Unsuitable or defective .	64	51	—	—
Not separate for sexes ..	3	3	—	—
Other offences	—	—	—	—
	84	71	—	—

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

One set of premises is used for the trade of tripe boiling, two for marine stores, and one for rag and bone dealer. These premises are periodically visited and are kept in a satisfactory condition.

CLEANSING.

COLLECTION.

	1946.	1947.
Ashbins emptied	261,661	310,489
Loads of refuse removed	3,060	3,389
Average weight per load ...	2 tons 3¾ cwts.	2 tons 5½ cwts.
Approx. weight of refuse removed	6,706 tons	7,731 tons.

The wagons have been well maintained and no wagon has been hired during 1947.

DISPOSAL.

During the year all refuse has been disposed of at the Glent Tip and a real effort has been made to tip on controlled lines. 779 loads of covering material were used. Most of the covering material was ash delivered to us free of charge from the Hartshead Power Station of the S.H.M.D. Transport and Electricity Board for whose assistance we are very grateful.

SALVAGE.

Efforts have been made to increase the collection of salvage and an increase in income of £224 has been the result. The largest increase is in the sale of bottles, the income rising from £21 in 1946 to £89 in 1947.

Comparative figures are as follows :—

<u>1946.</u>	Weight		Income
	T.	C.	£
Paper	120	12	813 (includes subsidy)
Kitchen Waste	330	13	634 „
Bottles	6	11	21
Metal	15	9	55
Textiles, Rubber, etc.	2	13	35
Sundries	2	9	11
	478	7	£1,569

<u>1947.</u>	Weight		Income
	T.	C.	£
Paper	145	4	976 (includes subsidy)
Kitchen Waste	306	18	645 „
Bottles	15	0	89
Metal	9	8	41
Textiles, Rubber, etc.	2	4	29
Sundries		11	13
	479	5	£1,793

During the year 169 loads of kitchen waste were collected and the number of communal bins in use at the end of the year was 374.

